

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SY-04 SCCT-01 A-01 OPR-01 PM-03

NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 RSC-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-05 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01

SAM-01 USSS-00 EB-04 COME-00 /058 W

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O 041352Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5184

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 15203

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, PINT, IT

SUBJECT: TERRORIST ATTACKS ON US TARGETS IN ROME PRECEDE KISSINGER
VISIT

1. ARSON ATTACKS ON A NUMBER OF US FIRMS IN ROME HAVE TAKEN PLACE DURING THE LAST THREE DAYS. ATTACKS APPEAR ATTRIBUTABLE TO LEFT WING "EXTRAPARLIAMENTARY" GROUPS WHO HAVE BEEN MOUNTING CAMPAIGN AGAINST KISSINGER VISIT. ATTACKS APPEAR TO HAVE BEEN DEMONSTRATIVE IN NATURE, DAMAGE IN ALL BUT ONE CASE WAS LIGHT AND THERE HAVE BEEN NO RPT NO REPORTED INJURIES.

2. ON NOVEMBER 2 TWO BRANCHES OF THE BANK OF AMERICA AND ITALY AND A BRANCH OF THE ITALO-AMERICAN BANK WERE LIGHTLY DAMAGED BY ARSONISTS USING "MOLOTOV COCKTAILS." ON NOVEMBER 3 GASOLINE BOMBS WERE THROWN AGAINST THE ADJACENT WINDOWS OF THE DOWNTOWN OFFICES OF IBM AND 3M COMPANY CAUSING LIGHT DAMAGE TO THE 3M OFFICE. LAST NIGHT SEVERAL VEHICLES PARKED IN A FORD GARAGE WERE BURNED. AT NOON TODAY NOV 4 A POWERFUL BLACK POWDER BOMB EXTENSIVELY DAMAGED THE OFFICES OF THE (ITALIAN OWNED) DAILY AMERICAN NEWSPAPER.

3. BECAUSE OF THE SPREAD OF POTENTIALLY DANGEROUS ANTI-AMERICAN TERRORIST ACTIVITIES, AMBASSADOR VOLPE CALLED MFA SECRETARY GENERAL GAJA TO EXPRESS OUR GRAVE CONCERN AT THESE ATTACKS ON US INSTALL-
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ATIONS AND TO REQUEST ADDITIONAL POLICE PROTECTION FOR US OFFICIAL AND

PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS. GAJA OFFERED APOLOGIES FOR THE "OUTRAGEOUS ACTS" AND PROMISED TO CALL INTERIOR MINISTER TAVIANI TO ASK THAT POLICE PROTECTION BE PROVIDED AS REQUESTED.

4. GAJA NOTED THAT THE ATTACKS ARE UNDOUBTEDLY THE WORK OF LEFT EXTREMISTS WHO ARE MOUNTING CAMPAIGN AGAINST SECRETARY'S VISIT. HE EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT THESE TERRORIST ACTS WILL HARM ITALY'S INTERNATIONAL IMAGE.

5. EMBASSY HAS ALSO MADE WORKING LEVEL REQUEST TO POLICE FOR ADDITIONAL COVERAGE AND HAS PROVIDED THEM WITH A LIST OF MOST EXPOSED US OFFICIAL AND NON-OFFICIAL TARGETS. VOLPE

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